



CLAIMS LISTING (clean copy)

Application #: 10/662,071

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1. A foot operated fishing net tipper comprising:
 - a. a primary boat-attaching portion having,
 - i. an outer bracket,
 - ii. an inner bracket,
 - 5 iii. an outer clamp adapted with a channel to slide in a mating channel within the outer bracket,
 - iv. an inner clamp also having a channel adapted to slide unidirectionally in a mating channel within the inner bracket,
 - v. a ratchet mechanism adapted with a hinged member hinged to the
10 planar member within an opening where said hinge member is adapted with a plurality of teeth mating with a reversed pattern of teeth atop the channel of the inner clamp,
 - vi. a pair of upwardly projecting plates integrally attached to a planar member thereby forming two raised fins above said planar member
15 through which a horizontal reinforced perforation is provided to rotably engage a net axle holding a net holding portion,
 - b. a secondary boat-attaching portion having,
 - i. a planar form having perforations therethrough to accept fasteners for attachment to a boat with wide gunwale,
 - 20 ii. a pair of upwardly projecting plates integrally attached to a planar member thereby forming two raised fins above said planar member

through which a horizontal reinforced perforation is provided to rotably engage a net axle holding a net holding portion,

c. a net-holding portion having:

- i. a lower and an upper hemi-cylindrical half forming a generally hollow tubular member where said lower half is fixedly attached to a net axle housing member through which a net axle passes and also connected with a hinge and latch pins, the upper half of the net holding portion is adapted with a mating hinge,
- ii. latches having a opening through which the latch pins of the lower half of the net holding portion frictionally engage,
- iii. a turn bolt having a knob and a threaded stem protruding a similarly threaded opening at the upper half of the net holding portion,
- iv. a strike located on the lower rearmost surface of the lower half of the net holding portion having a rearward hook portion, a horizontal perforation, a lock portion having a pivoting latch, and a lever fixedly attached to a net axle housing so as to rotably with connecting members where said connecting members form a net axle upon which a locking latch assembly rotates,

d. connecting members having rear stabilizer struts and a center transmission arm,

e. a foot pedal assembly having:

- i. a curved toe portion,

- ii. a planar heel portion joined by vertically planar joining members to which upwardly protruding tongues are integrally attached,
- iii. a foot pedal having an arm and a pedal axle housing and a planar pad and an upwardly protruding tongue all integrally attached to said arm by a pedal axle traversing perforations at each joining member.

2. The foot operated fishing net tipper of claim 1 wherein said boat-attaching portion is adapted to clamp onto any small boat side top edge.

10 3. The foot operated fishing net tipper of claim 1 wherein the secondary boat-attaching portion comprises a planar sheet like portion incorporating the upper portions of the primary boat attaching portion and adapted to securedly attach to a wide surface with suitable fasteners.

15 4. The foot operated fishing net tipper of claim 1 wherein the foot pedal portion is adapted with vertical members having a plurality of perforations therethrough to enable height adjustability between the boat-attaching portion and the foot pedal assembly.

20 5. The foot operated fishing net tipper of claim 1 wherein the net-holding portion is adapted with a latch that holds said net-holding portion in a horizontal position when so desired.

6. The foot operated fishing net tipper of claim 1 wherein the two halves of the net holding portion may be quickly collapsed by means of quick release latches.
7. The foot operated fishing net tipper of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 wherein the use for said foot operated fishing net tipper is to enable hands free operation of a fishing net when fishing from conventional fishing boats.

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